Son of W'ford natives to return for TG&Y's opening

Thomas E. Lewis, T.G. & Y. Stores Co. vice president and secretary, son of Robert B. Lewis and Minnie Newberry Lewis, residents of Weatherford at the turn of the century, will be present to greet Lewis and Newberry relatives and friends at the grand opening of the new T. G. & Y. Family Center store at 108 College Park Drive, Wednesday.

A ribbon cutting is planned for 8:30 a.m.

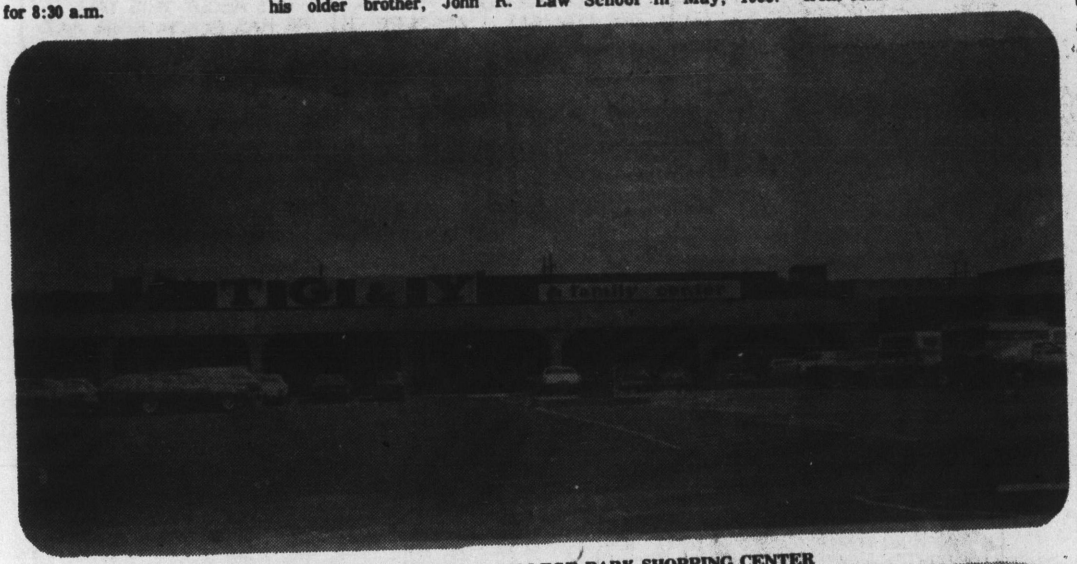
Mr. Lewis' grandfather, Samuel H. Newberry, came to Weatherford from Tennessee prior to the Civil War and his grandfather, Roland Lewis, came to Weatherford from Wales (via Minnesota) in 1878.

His mother, Minnie Florence Newberry, graduated from the Texas Female Seminary in 1899 and married Robert B. Lewis in 1900. Lewis, was a partner with his older brother, John R. Lewis, in the Lewis Hardware Store.

When the store burned in 1901, Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Lewis moved to Oklahoma City where Lewis opened the Lewis Sporting Good Store and a number of years later Tom Lewis was born in Oklahoma City.

Tom Lewis went to work for T. G. & Y Stores Co. the same month that he graduated from Law School in May, 1955. Initially his work involved corporation legal problems and insurance and, thus, the establishment of group insurance benefits as well as T. G. & Y.'s insurance coverage.

In 1955, T. G. & Y. had less than 100 stores in four states, with one combination warehouse general office, as compared to 926 stores and seven warehouses in 29 states from coast to coast in 1977.



THE T.G.&Y. STORE AT COLLEGE PARK SHOPPING CENTER

T. G. & Y. HISTORY

T. G. & Y. operates a chain of 930 general merchandise stores in a 29-state area. These stores are serviced from twelve warehouses throughout the U.S.A.

T. G. & Y. began operations in 1936, with headquarters, general offices, and warehouse in Oklahoma City.

The firm had grown to 128 stores at the end of 1957 when purchased by Butler Brothers of Chicago, remaining an autonomous division and continuing under the management of T. G. & Y. officers.

The division had climbed to 219 stores by 1960, the year Butler Brothers was purchased by City Products Corporation, with headquarters in Chicago and operating throughout the United States, including Hawaii and Alaska. City Products Corporation and its subsidiaries conduct a diversified business consisting principally of the sales of general merchandise through company-owned and franchised stores and home furnishings. T. G. & Y. continued to operate as an autonomous division under the management of the same group of officers.

Scott Stores, a subsidiary of City Products, merged with T. G. & Y. in 1969. Scott operated 110 stores in 18 states, with most of its outlets being clustered in the Great Lakes and Middle Western states. This merger brought all of City Products' company-owned stores into the T. G. & Y. Division.

The 1976 sales were $914,000,000, and the billion dollar mark will be reached in 1977. In 1976 there were 47 new stores opened, 50 are scheduled for 1977 and this agressive expansion program will continue into the future.

T. G. & Y. considers their stores to be of three classes: one is the expanded variety store, primarily convenience merchandise ranging to about 15,000 square feet and carrying limited junior department store lines; secondly, the family center unit ranging from 20,000 to 30,000 square feet; thirdly, the larger family center unit ranging from 40,000 to 80,000 square feet. Depending upon the size of these family center units, they go heavily into sporting goods, hardware, wearables, fabrics, automotive lines, and several other departments, considering the needs of the community. Some of these may include an auto center, pharmacy, or outdoor garden and lawn sales.

E. J. Braun, is President and Chief Executive Officer of the firm. Other officers include: J. M. Newgent, Executive Vice President; K. E. Hillyer, Sr. Vice President, Buying, Distribution, Traffic and Merchandise Control Systems; W. C. Dorsey, Vice President, Buying; R. W. Warren, Vice President, Distribution; Phil Carr, Vice President; Traffic; J. R. Dennis, Vice President, Merchandise Control Systems; DD. S. Kelly, Sr. Vice President; Store Operations; W. V. Tullos, Vice President, Store Operations; R. S. Turner, Vice President, Store Operations; H. O. Price, Vice President, Store Operations; J. H. Sr. Vice President, Administration; C. A. Buchanan, Vice President, Real Estate; O. H. Goss, Vice President, Construction; T. E. Lewis, Vice President, Secretary; D. W. Woolsey, Vice President, Finance; and J. E. Cox, Vice President, Treasurer. E. J. Braun is also Vice President of City Products.

Keck and Isaacs to manage new TG&Y store

Fred Keck, the manager of the new T. G. and Y store in Weatherford has been with the firm for 18 years.

A native of Seymour, Keck was a District Supervisor for T. G. & Y. before his appointment to Weatherford as store manager.

He said he felt that he wanted to get out of the upper management field and get back into a store where he could meet and deal with people, so he requested the store opening here and got the management position.

Keck said the three management personnel of the new store in the College Park Shopping Center are the only employees who are not local. The store will have about 65 area residents employed when they open officially tomorrow.

Keck, his wife, and two sons will be moving to Weatherford in the near future.

Johnny Isaacs, the co-manager of the new College Park store, was formerly the manager of a Wichita Falls T.G. & Y. before accepting the position with the new Weatherford store.

Isaacs helped manage three stores in Wichita Falls in three and one-half years for T.G. & Y. He is a native of that city and has a son and daughter. He said the store in Weatherford will be a full line store "carrying everything from builders supplies to ladies lingerie."

The 40,000 square foot building is the only T.G. & Y. between Abilene and Dallas, they pointed out.

Final Inspection

Fred Keck, left, manager of TG and Y, City Fire Marshal Tony Wien, and Johnny Isaacs, right, TG and Y co-manager, inspect fire fighting equipment in a final walk-through before the opening of the store. TG and Y, located in the College Park Shopping Center, is slated to open for business Wednesday, June 15. The store is employing 65 local people and is the only TG and Y Store between Dallas and Abilene. Customers are invited to check local advertising for opening specials.

Energy Tips of the Day

Don't waste energy by opening the refrigerator door any more often than you have to. Instead of taking out just one item at a time, plan ahead a little, and remove all foods you'll be using in the next half hour or so. Each time you open the refrigerator door it loses chilled air, and the motor has to work harder to make up for it.

YOUR BES